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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

6 DECEMBER 2016

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles – Warning About Plot to Attack Universal City Station Prompts Heightened Security

(U) An overseas tip about an imminent bombing of the Metro Red Line's Universal City station has forced federal and local law enforcement in Los Angeles to increase security across its sprawling transit system. An anonymous man warned of a potential attack today and provided the information on a tip line abroad. The tip line was run by an unidentified foreign government, which relayed the information to an FBI terrorism task force. The FBI as well as Los Angeles-area law enforcement leaders said the threat was considered specific and imminent, but investigators were still examining its credibility. SOURCE: 6 December 2016, The San Diego Union-Tribune

(U) San Francisco – California Bill Would Require Reporting of 'Superbug' Infections, Deaths

(U) A California state senator introduced a bill yesterday that would mandate reporting of antibiotic-resistant infections and deaths and require doctors to record the infections on death certificates when they are a cause of death. The legislation also aims to establish the nation's most comprehensive statewide surveillance system to track infections and deaths from drug-resistant pathogens. Data from death certificates would be used to help compile an annual state report on superbug infections and related deaths. In September, an investigation revealed that tens of thousands of superbug deaths nationwide go uncounted every year. The infections are often omitted from death certificates, and even when they are recorded, they aren't counted because of the lack of a unified national surveillance system.

SOURCE: 5 December 2016, Reuters

(U) NATIONAL

(U)Ohio – Ohio Resident Sentenced For Plotting to Attack US Capitol

(U)Green Township – An Ohio man was sentenced to 30 years in prison by a federal judge yesterday for plotting to attack the US Capitol with guns and bombs in sympathy with Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) militants. Christopher Cornell, 22, of Green Township, Ohio was arrested in January 2015 and accused of planning to travel to Washington to attack the US Capitol during President Barack Obama's State of the Union address. Cornell pleaded guilty in August to charges of attempted murder of government officials, possession of a firearm to commit a crime and attempting to provide material support to a foreign terrorist organization.

SOURCE: 5 December 2016, Reuters

(U) Ohio - Firefighter Shot, Wounded While on Scene of House Fire

(U) Youngstown – Officials say an Ohio firefighter was shot and wounded while in a firetruck at the scene of a house fire. The Youngstown firefighter was hit in the leg when someone fired shots as crews were wrapping up work at a fire scene. The area was searched, but no suspect was immediately identified. At least two bullet holes were found in the truck. Authorities are investigating whether it was a targeted shooting.

SOURCE: 6 December 2016, FOX News

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(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Ghana – Fake US Embassy Shut Down

(U) Accra – A fake US embassy that operated for "about a decade" in Ghana's capital issuing counterfeit and fraudulently obtained visas has been shut down. The scam was orchestrated by "Ghanaian and Turkish organized crime rings." Several suspects have been arrested, though others remain at large. Raids led to the recovery of 150 passports from 10 countries and visas from the US, India, South Africa and the European Schengen zone. In Washington, a State Department spokesman said no one was able to enter the United States illegally using a counterfeit visa obtained at the fake embassy. SOURCE: 5 December 2016, Associated Press

(U) Russia – State-Owned Bank Reports Sites Hit By Cyber-Attack

(U) Moscow – State-controlled Russian bank VTB reported that its websites were hit by a cyberattack but insisted its systems were still working "as normal." "A DDoS (distributed denial of service) attack was carried out against VTB Group internet sites," Russia's second largest bank said in a statement carried by Russian news agencies. Russia on 2 November, said it had uncovered plans by foreign intelligence services to carry out massive cyberattacks this month targeting the country's financial system. SOURCE: 5 December 2016, France 24

(U) Syria – ISIL Urges Supporters to Stage New Wave of Attacks

(U) Aleppo – A newly identified spokesman for ISIL urged sympathizers around the world to carry out a fresh wave of attacks, singling out Turkish diplomatic, military and financial interests as the Islamists' preferred targets. Abi al-Hassan al-Muhajer, whose role as the group's mouthpiece was disclosed for the first time yesterday, called on supporters of ISIL to "redouble your efforts and step up your operations" around the world.

SOURCE: 5 December 2016, Reuters

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Mexico – Fourteen Suspected Criminals Killed by Authorities

(U) Jesus Carranza – Fourteen suspected criminals were killed after a confrontation with police and marines in Mexico's Gulf state of Veracruz, Mexican police said yesterday. A spokesman for the municipal police in the city of Jesus Carranza confirmed that 14 gunmen were killed by authorities after attacking a patrol. Reports by local news outlets that an undetermined number of attackers escaped to a nearby mountain could not be confirmed immediately. Veracruz is home to a variety of turf battles among rival cartels, including the extremely violent Zetas.

SOURCE: 6 December 2016, Reuters

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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